

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): In the context of a printing system comprising one or more host apparatuses sending print job data containing a plurality of objects; and one or more printers carrying out printing of the plurality of objects based on the print job data from host apparatus or apparatuses, a printing system comprising:

~~one or more~~ first storage ~~means for storing the print job data wherein the print job data pertaining to a given print job comprises an indication of a plurality of objects;~~

~~one or more~~ job status ~~monitoring means~~ monitor for creating job status information for each one of the objects by monitoring operations carried out by the printer or printers in connection with printing of the plurality of objects, wherein, when job status information is received for any one of the plurality of objects of a given print job, the job status information is updated so as to provide updated job status information stored in a second storage;

~~one or more second storage means for storing the created job status information;~~

a controller performing a determining function including responding, to a printing error indication with respect to one of the plurality of objects, by ~~one or more determining means for, in the event of occurrence of one or more printing errors during printing of the plurality of objects at the printer or printers, determining whether after occurrence of the printing error or errors the printer or printers has or have recovered from one or more printing error states to one or more states permitting printing; and~~

the controller, ~~one or more print resuming means for,~~ in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, selecting one or more objects from among the plurality of objects based on the print job data stored at the first storage means and the updated job status information stored at the second

storage means, and causing resumption of printing with respect to ~~of only~~ the selected object or objects.

2. (original): A printing method comprising:

one or more steps in which print job data containing a plurality of objects is sent from one or more host apparatuses to one or more printers;

one or more steps in which printing of the plurality of objects is carried out at one or more printers based on the print job data from host apparatus or apparatuses;

one or more steps in which the print job data is stored;

one or more steps in which operations carried out by the printer or printers in connection with printing of the plurality of objects are monitored and job status information is created for each one of the objects;

one or more steps in which the created job status information is stored;

one or more steps in which, in the event of occurrence of one or more printing errors during printing of the plurality of objects at the printer or printers, determination is made as to whether after occurrence of the printing error or errors the printer or printers has or have recovered from one or more printing error states to one or more states permitting printing; and

one or more steps in which, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, one or more objects is or are selected from among the plurality of objects based on the stored print job data and the stored job status information, and printing of the selected object or objects is resumed.

3. (original): A printing method according to claim 2 wherein, at the step or steps in which printing is resumed, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, printing of the selected object or objects is automatically resumed.

4. (original): A printing method according to claim 2 wherein:

the job status information includes object identification information for specifying one or more objects subject to printing and information indicating one or more numbers of the object or objects subject to printing which has or have already been printed; and

at the step or steps in which printing is resumed, one or more objects for which printing has not yet been completed is or are selected based on the job status information and the print job data, and printing of the object or objects for which printing has not yet been completed is resumed.

5. (original): A printing method according to claim 2 wherein the step or steps in which the print job data is stored and the step or steps in which the job status information is stored are carried out by the host apparatus or apparatuses.

6. (original): A printing method according to claim 5 wherein the print job data and the job status information are stored on one or more rewritable recording media removably installed at the host apparatus or apparatuses.

7. (original): A printing method according to claim 5 wherein:

the print job data includes one or more image files, and one or more print specification files specifying one or more manners of printing the image file or files; and

at the step or steps in which the job status information is stored, the job status information is recorded in the print specification file or files.

8. (original): A printing method according to claim 5 further comprising:

one or more steps in which the stored job status information is retained by the host apparatus or apparatuses at least until printing of the print job data is completed; and

one or more steps in which, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, the print job status information and the print job data stored by the host apparatus or apparatuses are sent from the host apparatus or apparatuses to the printer or printers;

wherein, at the step or steps in which printing is resumed, the printer or printers select one or more objects for which printing has not yet been completed from among the plurality of objects based on the job status information and the print job data from the host apparatus or apparatuses, and resume printing of the object or objects for which printing has not yet been completed.

9. (original): A printing method according to claim 5 wherein:

in the event that the printing error or errors occur due to one or more reasons attributable to the host apparatus or apparatuses, the step or steps in which job status information is stored is or are carried out by the printer or printers; and

the printing method further comprises one or more steps in which, in the event that the reason or reasons attributable to the host apparatus or apparatuses has or have been corrected and it is determined that the printer or printers has or have returned to one or more states permitting printing, the job status information stored by the printer or printers is sent from the printer or printers to the host apparatus or apparatuses.

10. (original): A printing method according to claim 4 wherein:

the print job data includes one or more image files, and one or more print specification files specifying one or more manners of printing the image file or files;

the print specification file or files contains or contain information specifying how many sets of prints are to be printed, and path information indicating where the image file or files are stored; and

the object identification information included in the job status information is made up of one or more portions of the path information for the image file or files which is or are associated with the object or objects subject to printing.

11. (currently amended): A host apparatus sending print job data containing a plurality of objects to one or more printers and causing printing to be carried out, the host apparatus comprising:

~~one or more~~ a first storage means for storing the print job data;

~~one or more~~ a second storage means for storing job status information for each one of the objects, the job status information being created based on operations carried out by the printer or printers in connection with printing of the plurality of objects;

~~one or more~~ a determining means element for, in the event of occurrence of one or more printing errors during printing of the plurality of objects at the printer or printers, determining whether after occurrence of the printing error or errors the printer or printers has or have recovered from one or more printing error states to one or more states permitting printing; and

~~one or more~~ a resumption instruction means element for, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, controlling the printer or printers so as to cause resumption of printing of one or more objects selected from among the plurality of objects based on the print job data and the job status information, this having been permitted as a result of sending of the print job data stored at the first storage means and the job status information stored at the second storage means to the printer or printers.

12. (currently amended): A printer receiving print job data containing a plurality of objects from one or more host apparatuses and carrying out printing thereof, the printer comprising:

~~one or more~~ a job status monitoring means for element creating job status information for each one of the objects by monitoring operations carried out by the printer or printers in

connection with printing of the plurality of objects, and for sending the created job status information to the host apparatus or apparatuses;

~~one or more a~~ determining ~~means element~~ for, in the event of occurrence of one or more printing errors during printing of the plurality of objects, determining whether after occurrence of the printing error or errors the printer or printers has or have recovered from one or more printing error states to one or more states permitting printing; and

~~one or more a~~ print resuming ~~means element~~ for, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, receiving the print job data and the job status information from the host apparatus or apparatuses, selecting one or more objects from among the plurality of objects based on the print job data and the job status information, and resuming printing of the selected object or objects.

13. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing a program for causing one or more computers to execute a method in which print job data containing a plurality of objects is sent to one or more printers and printing is caused to be carried out, the method comprising:

one or more steps in which the print job data is stored;

one or more steps in which job status information for each one of the objects is stored, the job status information being created based on operations carried out by the printer or printers in connection with printing of the plurality of objects;

one or more steps in which, in the event of occurrence of one or more printing errors during printing of the plurality of objects at the printer or printers, determination is made as to whether after occurrence of the printing error or errors the printer or printers has or have recovered from one or more printing error states to one or more states permitting printing; and

one or more steps in which, in the event that it is determined that the printer or printers has or have recovered to the state or states permitting printing, the printer or printers is or are controlled so as to cause resumption of printing of one or more objects selected from

among the plurality of objects based on the print job data and the job status information, this having been permitted as a result of sending of the stored print job data and the stored job status information to the printer or printers.